

REMARKS

Claims 3, 5, 6, and 11 have been canceled. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-10, and 12-19 are presently pending. Claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, and 19 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Many amendments were made to improve readability of the claims.

In the Office Action, claim 13 was objected to for informalities. Claim 13 has been amended to overcome the objection.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 8 and 16-18 are allowed, and claims 5, 11, and 19 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 7 has been rewritten to include the subject matter of claim 11. Claim 7 is therefore allowable over the prior art of record. Claim 11 has been canceled. Claims 9 and 10 depend from claim 7 and are therefore also allowable over the prior art of record. Claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of claim 1 from which it depended. Thus, claim 19 is allowable over the prior art of record. Claim 1 has been rewritten to include the subject matter of allowable claim 5 and intervening claim 3. Claim 1 is therefore allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 3, 5, and 6 have been canceled. Claim 4 has been amended to depend from claim 1. Claims 2, 4, and 12 depend from claim 1 and are therefore also allowable over the prior art of record. Claim 13 was amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 5 and intervening claim 3. Claim 13 is therefore allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 14 and 15 depend from claim 13 and are therefore also allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the above, each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and

authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing Attorney Docket No. 449122063200.

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Respectfully submitted,

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